

felt, I'm sure by this Legislature when we enacted the bill 1919, that was before Lewis, that the bill was in the interest of all Nebraskans. It has never been the policy of the State of Nebraska to require capital construction cost to be paid for by industry. There have been many contributions, by industry, towards this type of facility. Experimental models, experimental equipment, experimental engines, many of them have been donated for years by the various companies to the University of Nebraska in cooperation with this tractor testing lab. The lab does, in fact, benefit all citizens. It has served as a standard for excellence worldwide. There are tractors now that are too large to be accommodated in the present facility. There are many of these tractors, in fact, that cannot be tested and, therefore, cannot be sold in Nebraska. You will note some of the advertisements for these tractors specify that the tractor cannot be sold in Nebraska, principally because they cannot be tested. I would oppose the motion by Senator Frank Lewis. I know that he is concerned. I know that all of us are concerned. I know that my motion, which will add the necessary amount of money in the succeeding years to complete this facility, is going to be questioned somewhat. I believe it is imperative that we give the direction to the college that the Governor asked for when he proposed the \$1 million expenditure, that we will completely fund the project. That is what my proposal does. I hope that we will reject Senator Frank Lewis' proposal and that we will adopt mine. The facility tests about 30 tractors a year. The facility operates...I want to repeat once more, the operational cost is completely borne by the companies whose tractors are tested. Therefore, I feel that it would be unfair, it would certainly be precedent-shattering and maybe setting if we were to require those industries which participate in this type of project to fund the capital construction costs. I would also like to point out the many millions of dollars in sales taxes that are collected on these tractors that are tested out there every year. I would urge you to reject the Lewis amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask Senator Schmit a question. Let's just take, for example, the John Deere 8430 which, I'm sure you know, is a large four-wheel drive tractor. They say, I don't know, how much horsepower does it have? One hundred and eighty horsepower. Alright. They advertise it as 180 horsepower and we doubt that that is the truth. Isn't that it? So, Mr. Chairman, could you turn Senator Schmit on so I could hear him, please. Thank you. What we're saying is we don't believe you, we want to find out for ourselves. Is that right?

SENATOR SCHMIT: That is right. We demand that we check those tractors before they are sold in the state.

SENATOR NICHOL: That is right. Okay. What is the difference whether that has 180, 170, or 190? Does it make any difference to you as a farmer?

SENATOR SCHMIT: It can mean quite a little difference to the farmer if he buys a tractor that the horsepower rating is not what it is supposed to be. You know one year...a couple of years ago we passed an amendment here which exempted tractors of less than 12 horsepower. Since that time we've purchased two or three of those buggers on the yard and I think they're the biggest steal in the place, Senator Nichol. We ought to have them test all those little ones also.